

## **NEWS RELEASE**

DIVISION OF POLICE • COLUMBUS, OHIO KIMBERLEY K. JACOBS • CHIEF OF POLICE

For Immediate Release:

For further information, Contact: Denise Alex-Bouzounis at (614) 645-4593

**Public Information Office** August 17, 2017 MA# 60-2017

## Columbus Division of Police Awarded 7th Accreditation

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) awarded the Columbus Division of Police its seventh consecutive accreditation, the gold standard.

In a letter sent to Chief Kimberley Jacobs, CALEA Executive Director, CALEA Executive Director W. Craig Hartley Jr wrote, "We commend you and your agency for demonstrating a commitment to professional excellence in policy and practice."

The Columbus Division of Police has maintained continuous accredited status with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., CALEA, since 1999. On July 29, 2017, the Commission awarded the Columbus Division of Police, CALEA Law Enforcement Accreditation with Excellence. The Accreditation with Excellence Award recognizes agencies that have met the following criteria:

- Excellence in the development and implementation of contemporary policies and procedures.
- Excellence in the ability to use the CALEA Accreditation process as a tool for continuous organizational improvement.
- Excellence in the collection, review and analysis of organizational data for the purpose of public safety service improvement.
- Advocacy for CALEA Accreditation as a strategy for enhancing the professional standing of public safety.
- Excellence in addressing the intent of CALEA standards, beyond compliance.
- Organizational culture supportive of CALEA Accreditation.
- Standards compliance and accreditation process success.

Accreditation is one way the Division utilizes external review to ensure transparency and improved services to the public we serve. CALEA assessors conducted their evaluation in March 2017.